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1. MACMILLAN'S CALL FOR A NON-AGGRESSION PACT

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Prime Minister Macmillan's radio speech of 4 January, advocating a non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union and an eventual summit meeting, reflects the sensitivity

of the Conservative government to public demands for efforts-- beyond the moves outlined in the 19 December NATO communiqué-- to achieve a reconciliation of major disputes with Moscow. Macmillan seems to anticipate that by such an initiative he can increase public support for a defense program. Macmillan restricted and hedged his proposals to reduce any alarm of fellow NATO members over not being consulted. The British government presumably intends to incorporate the ideas in Macmillan's formal response to Bulganin's note of 10 December now being prepared. The reply is to be discussed at the North Atlantic Council meeting on 8 January.

The Soviet news agency TASS on 4 January reported Macmillan's proposal, criticizing his "rude anti-Soviet attacks" and his defense of British foreign policy. The Soviet leaders probably will assert that only the United States now stands in the way of an East-West accommodation. Moscow is also likely to contend that an East-West heads of government conference would be the best forum for discussing Macmillan's ideas and that favorable reaction in Europe and Asia has improved the prospects for holding such a conference.

Free world reaction to the Macmillan proposal was nearly unanimously favorable. French Foreign Ministry sources were quoted as hailing Macmillan's "bold initiative;" in Rome, authoritative sources welcomed the proposals for a non-aggression pact but emphasized the need for adequate guarantees. Bonn's favorable comment was more restrained, reflecting the government's fear of any new steps toward an over-all settlement not hinged on German reunification--a topic which Macmillan's speech ignored. Enthusiastic approval came from the press in Cairo, Tokyo, and New Delhi.

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4. POSSIBLE IRAQI CABINET AND ARMY SHAKE-UP

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Authoritative Iraqi sources expect the month-old Mirjan cabinet to fall

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The changes, if they occur, probably would be the product of disagreements within the cabinet between hold-overs from

the previous Ali Jawdat cabinet and new members brought in by Mirjan. Iraqi strong-man Nuri Said is planning to absent himself from the country during the shake-up, in order not to give the impression that he is behind it.

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